



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

---

## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 1, 2006

For Information Contact Public Affairs  
WYN HORNBuckle  
Telephone: (602) 514-7625  
Cell: (602) 525-2681

### **AVONDALE FELON SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF A SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN**

PHOENIX -- David Cernak, 27, of Avondale, Ariz., was sentenced here Tuesday to 37 months in prison and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service by U.S. District Court Judge Roslyn O. Silver. Immediately prior to sentencing, Cernak pled guilty to Possession of an Unregistered Weapon Made From a Shotgun.

During the course of his guilty plea, Cernak admitted that on January 2, 2006, he knowingly possessed a Remington, Model 870 Wingmaster, 12 gauge, shotgun with a barrel and stock sawed off to an overall length of approximately 22 inches. Cernak further admitted that the firearm was not registered to him under federal law and he had a prior felony conviction for Armed Robbery in the Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County, on July 13, 1999. At sentencing, the government noted that prior to his arrest Cernak took the gun from a family member suspected of using it in an armed assault and then hid it under a bed in his Avondale apartment. Cernak has been in federal custody since his arrest on January 2, 2006, and was remanded to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons by Judge Silver.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and Avondale Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Frederick A. Battista, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-021-PHX-ROS  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-229 (Cernak)

###